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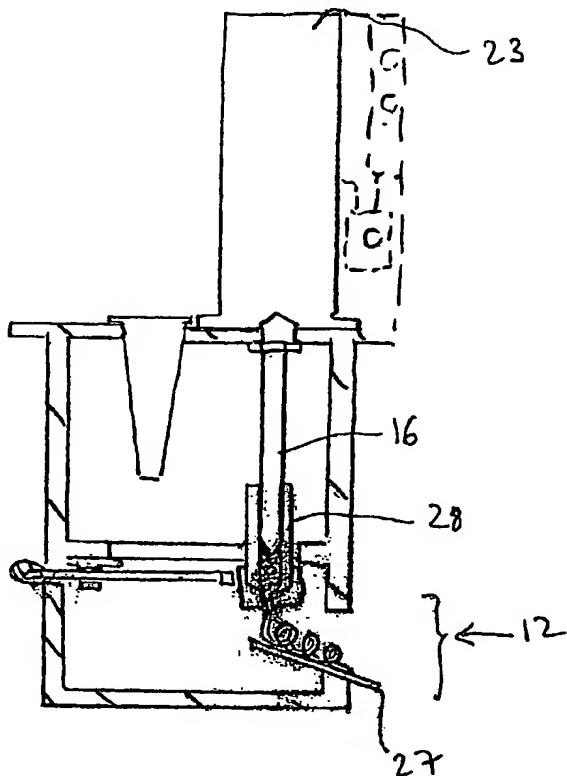
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(54) Title: FRESHLY PREPARED EXTRUDED FAT-BASED CONFECTIONERY PRODUCT WITH TEMPORARY FLEXIBILITY HAVING ENHANCED MELT-IN-THE-MOUTH PROPERTIES AND METHOD OF DISPENSING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: A visually attractive, freshly prepared, fat based confectionery product formed of at least one elongated strand of extrudate of fat based confectionery material; the at least one strand being capable of being handled while exhibiting a temporary flexibility and the at least one strand being formed to a surface area-to-mass ratio that is higher than 8.0 cm² per gram unit with the at least one strand having a continuous total length that is more than 80 mm. The product can be produced freshly on demand by cold extrusion at food service outlets and can be associated with food or beverages. The product exhibits enhanced melting properties, high volume occupancy and play value.

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ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)
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EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A23G1/20 A23G3/02 A23G3/12 A23G1/00

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A23G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 775 446 A (NESTLE SA) 28 May 1997 (1997-05-28) cited in the application	1-19
X	column 1, line 3 - column 4, line 13; figures 3-6	20
A	EP 0 603 467 A (NESTLE SA) 29 June 1994 (1994-06-29) cited in the application	1-19
X	page 2, line 35 - page 3, line 50; examples 1,6,7	20
Y		21,22
Y	EP 0 820 701 A (NESTLE SA) 28 January 1998 (1998-01-28) column 2, line 14 - line 57	21,22
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *8* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

6 December 2004

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Gaiser, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/004833

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 366 978 A (SCHOELLER LEBENSMITTEL) 9 May 1990 (1990-05-09) the whole document -----	1
A	EP 0 321 449 A (ROWNTREE MACKINTOSH PLC ;PA CONSULTING SERVICES (GB)) 21 June 1989 (1989-06-21) cited in the application column 2, line 55 - column 4, line 25 -----	1,6-11
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/004833

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-19

a fat based product forming a continuous strand of a plurality of curls

2. claims: 15-31

On demand delivery of an extruded confectionery product

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004833

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